

8-22-06

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Attorney Docket No. 04043/LH**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT
AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant(s): Shoichi NOMURA et al

Serial No. : 10/764,414

Filed : January 23, 2004

For : IMAGE PROCESSING METHOD,
IMAGE PROCESSING APPARATUS
AND IMAGE PROCESSING PROGRAM

Art Unit : 2621

Conf. No. : 8189

Customer No.: 01933

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
WITH STATEMENTS UNDER 37 CFR 1.97(e)
AND UNDER 37 CFR 1.704(d)**Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

S I R :

Submitted herewith are:

- (1) Copy of a European Search Report dated July 24, 2006 issued in a counterpart European application;
- (2) Copies of the cited publications (except U.S. patent publications); and
- (3) Form PTO/SB/08B.

The European Search Report is in English, thereby satisfying the requirements for a concise explanation of relevance for any non-English language documents cited therein (MPEP 609 III A(3)).

Documents cited in the European Search Report and not submitted herewith were previously submitted with the Information Disclosure Statement filed June 23, 2004. These previously submitted documents are listed on the Forms PTO/SB/08A and PTO/SB/08B filed June 24, 2004.

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Sharon Portnoy

In the event that this Paper is late filed, and the necessary petition for extension of time is not filed concurrently herewith, please consider this as a Petition for the requisite extension of time, and to the extent not tendered by Form -2038 attached hereto, authorization to charge the extension fee, or any other fee required in connection with this Paper, to Account No. 06-1378.

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STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.97(e) (1)

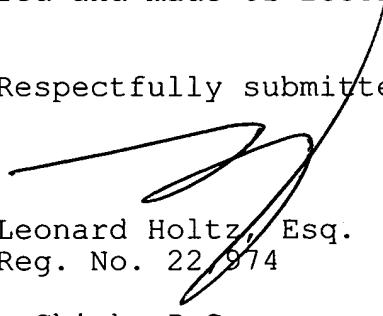
Each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the present Information Disclosure Statement. Said Communication bears a mailing date of July 24, 2006. Therefore, the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement is timely under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.97(e) and does not require a fee.

STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.704(d)

Each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in said communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart application, and this communication was not received by any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than thirty days prior to the filing of the present Information Disclosure Statement.

It is requested that an initialed copy of the Form PTO/SB/08B be returned to indicate that the publications listed therein have been considered and made of record.

Respectfully submitted,


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<p>Substitute for Form 1449A/PTO</p> <p>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</p> <p style="text-align: center;">AUG 21 2006</p> <p style="text-align: center;">RECEIVED U.S. PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE</p>		Application Number	10/764,414	
		Filing Date	January 23, 2004	
		First Named Inventor	Shoichi NOMURA et al	
		Group Art Unit	2621	
		Examiner Name	Not yet assigned	
		Sheet	1	of

OTHER DOCUMENTS - NON-PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials ¹	Cite No. ¹	Include name of author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of article, title of item, date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published	T ²
		<p>JIANYIN LU et al: "Region-adaptive image restoration using wavelet denoising technique", IEICE TRANSACTIONS ON INFORMATION AND SYSTEMS INST. ELECTRON. INF. & COMM. ENG., JAPAN, Vol. E85-D, No. 1, January 2002 (2002-01), pages 286-290, XP008066313, ISSN: 0916-8532 - Section 3.</p> <p>LABAERE F N, VUYLSTEKE P, WAMBACQ P, SCHOETERS E P, FIVEZ C M: "Primative-based contrast enhancement method", PROCEEDINGS OF THE SPIE, Vol. 2710, 1996, pages 811-820, XP008066285, SPIE - The International Society for Optical Engineering, USA - entire document.</p> <p>XULI ZONG et al: "Speckle Reduction and Contrast Enhancement of Echocardiograms via Multiscale Nonlinear Processing", IEEE TRANSACTIONS ON MEDICAL IMAGING, IEEE Vol. 17, No. 4, August 1998 (1998-08), XP011035766, ISSN: 0278-0062 - entire document.</p> <p>MARK R. BANHAM et al: "Spatially Adaptive Wavelet-Based Multiscale Image Restoration", IEEE TRANSACTIONS ON IMAGE PROCESSING, IEEE SERVICE CENTER, PISCATAWAY, NJ, US, XP011025976, ISSN: 1057-7149 - entire document.</p> <p>ANGUH M M et al: "Multiscale segmentation and enhancement in mammograms", COMPUTER GRAPHICS AND IMAGE PROCESSING, 1997, PROCEEDINGS., X BRAZILIAN SYMPOSIUM ON CAMPOS DO JORADO, BRAZIL 14-17 OCT. 1997, LOS ALAMITOS, CA, USA, IEEE COMPUT. SOC. US., 14 October 1997 (1997-10-14), pages 136-139, 232, XP010248310, ISBN: 0-8186-8102-0 - entire document.</p> <p>MACHIRAJU R et al: "Detection and controlled manipulation of coherent structures in medical images", BIOMEDICAL ENGINEERING CONFERENCE, 1997, PROCEEDINGS OF THE 1997 SIXTEENTH SOUTHERN BILOXI, MS, USA, IEEE, US, 4 April 1997 (1997-04-04), pages 235-238, XP010219443, ISBN: 0-7803-3869-3 - entire document.</p>	

Examiner Signature

Date Considered

* EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Unique citation designation number. ² Place a check here if English translation is attached.

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